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Department of Agriculture

PHALARIS TUBEROSA

Brunnings are the **Principal** Suppliers of All High Grade Government Sealed and Certified Pasture Seeds including Phalaris Tuberosa. **"Value," not "Price,"** is the essential consideration when buying Pasture Seeds. All **Brunning's Pasture Seeds** are **Government Tested** for Purity and Germination.

Brunning's Up-to-date Seed Stores and Seed Cleaning Factory at 22 Hanna Street, South Melbourne.

FEATURES OF PHALARIS TUBEROSA

1. A True Perennial and Thoroughly Permanent when once established.
2. Can be Pastured, Cut and Fed Green or made into Hay.
3. Has been known to grow an inch a day in the depth of Winter.
4. Highest production period is during late Autumn, Winter and up to mid-Spring.
5. Suitable for both High and Intermediate rainfall localities.
6. Both the Green Fodder and the Hay are Highly Nutritious and Palatable to all Stock.
7. Adaptable to Climatic Conditions in most parts of Australia.

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"Seeds for Sowing."

PHALARIS TUBEROSA AND HOW TO GROW IT

1. Q. What is Phalaris Tuberosa?

A. It is a high production, true perennial pasture plant which with reasonable management **may be kept at maxiumm** yielding efficiency for twenty years or more. It was formerly known as Phalaris Bulbosa; the common names are Toowoomba Canary Crass and Harding Grass.

2. Q. Describe its sphere of Utility?

A. It is one of our **best high production pastures for Winter** and Spring grazing, may be cut and fed green and will also yield a **valuable hay** crop. It is also most **useful as a honey plant** for bees from the middle of October to the end of November.

3. Q. What class of land is necessary?

A. Heavy, clay land is the most suitable, but it will also respond well on light country where there is a heavy clay subsoil not more than 18 inches below the surface. **Except in** high rainfall districts **and where** regular applications of fertiliser are given to counter balance the soil deficiency, second or third class country is not conductive to success with this high production plant.

4. Q. Has it any special climatic requirements?

A. The **range of usefulness** of Phalaris Tuberosa is **very wide** and extensive. It has been and is still being grown successfully in Southern Queensland, the New England district of N.S.W., the Riverina, in most parts of Victoria, in Tasmania, in South Australia (under **comparatively low** rainfall) and also in Western Australia.

While it is very successful in high rainfall localities with an equable climate, it has in South Australia and Victoria **proved** itself to be **one of the best perennial grasses** without irrigation where the Summers are hot and dry and the annual rainfall averages less than 24 inches per annum.

5. When is the seed sown?

A. From the **middle of March** until **early July.** In most districts **April** and early May is the **ideal period.** In high rainfall localities, it may be established in the Spring by sowing as late as the end of August, but the Autumn sowing is more reliable as will be understood when it is realised that the plant is a Winter pasture.

6. Q. What Soil Preparation is required?

A. Phalaris Tuberosa is a perennial laid down for a lengthy period of years, so that **extra care** in the initial stages is **well repaid** later on. Surface cultivation will in most instances suffice **providing the land is worked down to a fine tilth** to provide a fine level shallow seed bed and to prevent the fine seed being sown **too deeply.**

7. Q. How is the Seed Sown?

A. The seed may be **drilled in in rows 3 feet apart,** when from **5** to **6 lbs.** will be required for **an acre.** As the seed is small, **sow fairly close to the surface,** and **roll** the ground after seeding. Another method is to raise the seedlings in a seed bed and **to transplant out** any time from the end of May to August in rows **3 feet apart,** spacing the plants from **24 to 30 inches apart** in the rows. Although rather a big job on a large area, this transplanting method is more economical in seed as **from 2 to 2½ lbs.** will supply ample plants for an acre, and it also obviates the thinning out necessary when the seed is sown where the plants are to remain.

8. Q. What Subsequent Treatment is necessary?

A. For the first year or two, **cultivate regularly to conserve** the soil moisture, especially during very dry weather. After this time, the plants will be meeting each other in the rows, when, of course, no further attention in this direction is possible. An established stand of Phalaris Tuberosa if **grazed judiciously,** forms a close turf, while if cut as soon as the flower heads have formed, it yields a hay of first-class quality.

A **top-dressing of Superphosphate** each year about April or May at the rate of 168 lbs. per acre, and **reasonable care in pasturing,** is all that is needed to keep this valuable perennial at high productivity for many years.

An **alternative to** using Superphosphate alone is to dress with 112 lbs. Superphosphate and 112 lbs. of Sulphate of Ammonia per acre. The latter **supplies the nitrogen content** so essential to high fertility grasses such as Phalaris Tuberosa.

9. Q. Will it grow in Mixture with other Grasses and Clovers?

A. Being highly sensitive to competition from other grasses in the early stages, Phalaris Tuberosa is **NOT adapted to** growing in **association with** Perennial Ryegrass or Cocksfoot. It does well, however, with **Paspalum Dilatatum,** the latter **being introduced** the first or second Spring after sowing the Phalaris; this mixture is valuable insomuch as the **Paspalum** is **at its best** in the late Spring, Summer and early Autumn, when the Phalaris Tuberosa is more or less in a non-productive condition.

Clovers either sown at the time of laying down or introduced later, **make an excellent association with** Phalaris Tuberosa, and the plant does splendidly with N.Z. Certified White Clover, Victorian Irrigation White Clover, Giant Colonial Cowgrass, Alsike Clover and all strains of Subterranean Clover, i.e., Extra Early Dwalganup, Mid-season or Mt. Barker, Late Tallarook, Mulwala Early and Bacchus Marsh Early.

10. Q. What Seed Should I Sow?

A. To ensure **freedom from** the useless **annual types** which are apt to choke the Phalaris Tuberosa in its early stages, **SOW ONLY Government** Sealed and **Certified** True Perennial Strain seed. Better still, **buy** your seed **from F. H. Brunning Pty. Ltd.,** all of whose PhalarisTuberosa is Government Tested for Purity and Germination, and whose **seed** is not only thoroughly **RELIABLE, SAFE and SURE,** but the **"Best Value"** at all times when "Quality" is taken into consideration.

F. H. BRUNNING Pty. Ltd., Box 857 K, Melbourne